

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:HHSUNDERS/HLK

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NEA - MR. ATHERTON

P - MR. SISCO

S/S-O:ASHANKLE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 141219

NODIS

CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

FOR, US, EG

TAGS: PFOR, US, EG

SUBJ: MESSAGE FOR FAHMY

REF: CAIRO 5931

FOR CHARGE FROM SECRETARY

YOU SHOULD CONVEY THE FOLLOWING TO FAHMY FROM ME IN RESPONSE TO HIS QUERY ABOUT WHAT WE PLAN TO SAY TO THE SYRIANS: THE INVITATION FOR A SYRIAN REPRESENTATIVE TO VISIT WASHINGTON WAS EXTENDED WHEN IT BECAME CLEAR THAT THE PRESIDENT WOULD BE SEEING BOTH PRESIDENT SADAT AND PRIME MINISTER RABIN IN THE COURSE OF OUR POLICY REASSESSMENT. FOR REASONS I AM CERTAIN FAHMY WILL APPRECIATE, WE CONSIDERED IT IMPORTANT NOT TO GIVE SYRIANS IMPRESSION THEY WERE BEING EXCLUDED FROM OUR CONSULTATIVE PROCESS. THE SYRIANS WERE SOME TIME IN CONFIRMING THEIR PLAN TO SEND SOMEONE, AND THE FACT THAT THE VISIT, WHICH HAD NOT THEN BEEN FIRMED UP, WAS NOT EXPLICITLY MENTIONED AT SALZBURG WAS AN OVERSIGHT, WHICH I VERY MUCH REGRET. THUS

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THE VISIT DOES NOT RESULT FROM ANY NEW DEVELOPMENT, AND

WE WILL CONTINUE TO TAKE WITH THE SYRIANS THE SAME GENERAL
LINE WE TOOK IN MARCH -- THAT WE WILL MAKE A SERIOUS EFFORT
TO ASSURE FURTHER PROGRESS IN ISRAELI-SYRIAN NEGOTIATIONS.
OUR APPROACH WILL BE, AS IN MARCH, TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON

WHAT WOULD BE REQUIRED IN PRACTICAL TERMS TO ADVANCE
THOSE NEGOTIATIONS SO THE CONVERSATIONS WILL DEAL WITH
MORE THAN GENERALITIES. WE WILL NOT OF COURSE GO INTO
SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES OF POSSIBLE EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI INTERIM
AGREEMENT, ON WHICH AMBASSADOR EILTS WILL BE REPORTING
INTER ALIA TO PRESIDENT SADAT AND FAHMY, BUT WILL
SIMPLY INDICATE THAT OUR POLICY REASSESSMENT IS STILL
FOCUSING ON ALTERNATIVES OF REVIVING STEP-BY-STEP
PROCESS OR MOVING TO QUESTIONS OF OVERALL SETTLEMENT.
KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, BRIEFING MATERIALS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, CAT-C, CHEROKEE 06/17/75
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE141219
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: HHSAUNDERS/HLK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P850012-1947
From: STATE NEA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750642/aaaabmdy.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 75 CAIRO 5931
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <22 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MESSAGE FOR FAHMY
TAGS: PFOR, PEPR, US, EG, SY, (FAHMY, ISMAIL)
To: CAIRO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006